United Nations A/C.2/54/L.35

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Sectoral policy questions: business and development

Guyana:* draft resolution

Business and development: illegal transfer of funds from developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/176 of 15 December 1998 on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Recognizing the important role of the business community, in particular the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors and the need to create an enabling environment for business in order to facilitate economic growth and development of developing countries, most especially African countries, which are in need of financing for development,

Mindful of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

1. *Calls* for further concerted international measures to combat corrupt practices and bribery in international transactions;

2. *Condemns* corruption and bribery and the illegal transfer of funds of developing countries to foreign banks;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

99-35146 (E) 171199

3. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of developing countries aimed at strengthening local institutional capacity for preventing corrupt practices, including illegal transfers of funds;

4. *Calls* for international cooperation, including through the United Nations system, to devise ways and means of preventing further illegal transfers from developing countries and repatriating illegally transferred funds to developing countries, and calls upon all concerned countries and entities to cooperate in this regard;

5. *Decides* to keep this matter under review and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to include in the report called for in its resolution 53/176, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, information on progress in the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations on the future course of action in this matter.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.36

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Guyana:* draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996, 52/182 of 18 December 1997 and 53/170 of 15 December 1998, as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth, development and interrelated issues,

Reaffirming the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa,[1] which provides an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

Emphasizing that a favourable and conducive international economic and financing environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the growth and development of developing countries, and emphasizing also that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for sustainable development,

Noting that the benefits of the existing multilateral trading system have not been evenly shared and that progress towards full liberalization in sectors of particular interest to developing countries is lagging behind and significant imbalances between rights and obligations exist in multilateral trading agreements as well as in conditions of market access,

Stressing the importance of full and faithful implementation of the commitments and obligations in multilateral trade agreements to the equitable development and stability of the world economy,

---

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Ninth Session, Midrand, Republic of South Africa, 27 April-11 May 1996, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.4), part one, sect. A.

99-35188 (E) 171199

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-sixth session,[2] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[3]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

2. *Renews* the commitment to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations;

3. *Expresses* concern at the declining terms of trade in primary commodities and lack of progress in diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions including through improved market access conditions;

4. *Recognizes* that the substantial improvement of market access to developed country markets through, *inter alia*, the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, especially for exports of goods and services from developing countries, should be a major priority for the new multilateral trade negotiations;

5. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass, roll back or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by unilateral actions inconsistent with the multilateral trade rules and regulations;

6. *Expresses* concern about the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing measures which are increasingly being used as protectionist measures against developing countries;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made so far in the preparation for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000, by the Trade and Development Board, and considers that the tenth session of Conference will provide, *inter alia*, an important opportunity for the United Nations system and the international community to make a collective reflection on development, particularly in the context of globalization, to reach a consensus on a new development paradigm whose pillars are growth, stability and equity, and which would facilitate the effective integration of developing countries into a more equitable global economy, as well as ensuring greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in global economic policy-making and more participatory decision-making;

---

[2] A/54/15 (Part V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[3] A/54/529, annex.

[4] A/54/304.

9. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization, in particular in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, *inter alia*:

(a) Substantial reductions of tariffs and tariff peaks as well as the removal of tariff escalation;

(b) Ensuring that resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and technical standards is subjected to effective multilateral surveillance so that such measures respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

(c) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

(d) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their Generalized System of Preferences schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences schemes, and in this context reiterates its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

10. *Also reiterates* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries and to promote their expeditious integration into the world economy, and that all countries should work together towards further enhanced market access for exports from least developed countries within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building; welcomes the initiatives taken by the World Trade Organization in cooperation with other organizations in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries adopted at its first Ministerial Conference, held at Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, including through effective follow-up to the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development, held at Geneva on 27 and 28 October 1997, taking into account the proposals adopted by the Least Developed Countries' Coordinating Workshop held in South Africa in June 1999; recognizes that the full implementation of the Plan of Action requires further and expeditious progress towards duty-free imports from the least developed countries; and invites the relevant international organizations to provide substantially enhanced technical assistance to help strengthen the supply capacity of the least developed countries so as to help them to take the fullest possible advantage of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization;

11. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the countries of Africa into the world economy, and in this context welcomes the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[5] and endorses the call contained in the ministerial communiqué for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for their efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity, and in this context requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue and strengthen its contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development

[5] A/52/871-S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

of Africa in the 1990s,[6] taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board on Africa;[7]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as a matter of urgency, the initiation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the areas falling within its mandate, of the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda to be held in the year 2002, in particular focusing on market access, diversification and supply capacity, resources flows and external debt, foreign direct and portfolio investment and access to technology, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to present a report based on the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on Africa and on measures taken in this regard, with a special emphasis on African trade issues, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under the agenda item entitled "International trade and development";

13. *Also stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States, small and vulnerable economies and landlocked developing countries, and to recognize that developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support in maintaining and improving their transit infrastructure;

14. *Endorses* in this context the relevant provisions of its twenty-second special session on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[8] and reiterates the need for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[9]

15. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[10] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries so as to maximize economic growth and developmental benefits for all, and the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries, particularly the operationalization of special and differential provision, including the strengthening of the concept taking into account the changing realities of world trade and of globalized production, and urges Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decisions on Least Developed Countries and on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;[10]

16. *Recognizes* that it is important that the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards areas and products of interest to developing countries,

---

[6] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[7] See A/54/15 (Part V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15.*

[8] See resolution S-22/2.

[9] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[10] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

be maintained and that further liberalization be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members, within the framework of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard welcomes the activities of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development aimed at assisting developing countries in developing a positive agenda for the future multilateral trade negotiations, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide analytical support and technical assistance, as well as capacity-building activities, to those countries for their effective participation in the negotiations;

17. *Stresses* the need for future multilateral trade negotiations to pay particular attention to such issues as transfer of technology, appropriate safeguards for developing countries, credit for autonomous liberalization, export finance and commodity markets, and in this regard to the operationalization of the provisions under the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement[10] relating to the transfer of technology and the balanced protection of biological resources and disciplines to protect traditional knowledge, as well as enabling developing countries to use measures necessary to implement their policies for development and export diversification and upgrading under the Trade-Related Investment Measures Agreement[10] and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures;[10]

18. *Calls upon* the international financial institutions to ensure that in their development cooperation activities, the developing countries are not required to undertake obligations with regard to their development policies, strategies and programmes in trade and trade-related areas in excess or additional to those undertaken within the framework of rules agreed within the multilateral trading system;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of and the attainment of greater universality by the international trading system, and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including the application of the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries in their accession negotiations, and also emphasizes the necessity for Governments that are members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner, on the basis of undertaking balanced World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide technical assistance, within their mandates, that will contribute to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

20. *Stresses* the need for improved measures to address the volatility of financial flows as well as the effects of financial crisis on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries and the countries affected by such crisis, emphasizing that keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming such crisis, and in this context rejects the use of any protectionist measures; at a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system, and in this context calls for close cooperation between the organizations of the United Nations system and the multilateral trade and financial institutions;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in scheduling and organizing mandated events on trade and trade-related issues, to promote complementarity on the work of the relevant

bodies of the United Nations system, bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the focal point;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration and the contribution of such regional arrangements to facilitating trade and investment flows, economies of scale, economic liberalization and the integration of their members into the system of international economic relations within a framework of open regionalism, enabling progress towards a more open multilateral system, and calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to provide support to economic integration amongst developing countries;

23. *Reiterates* that, in line with Agenda 21[11] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[12] Governments should have as their objective to ensure that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive so as to achieve sustainable development and that, in so doing, their environmental policies and measures with a potential trade impact are not used for protectionist purposes, and encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on trade, environment and development;

24. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment, as well to identify ways and means to promote foreign direct and investment to all developing countries, in particular to those most in need, taking into account the interests of developing countries and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations;

25. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

26. *Strongly underlines* the need for technical assistance, including the provision of legal assistance to developing countries, to enable those countries to take the fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, based on multilaterally agreed rules and regulations, and in this context emphasizes the importance of enabling the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen technical assistance to developing countries, in particular the developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in this area,

27. *Notes* the increasing importance and application of electronic commerce in international trade and the need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to participate effectively in electronic commerce, and urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to assist developing countries and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for analysis of the fiscal, legal and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce as well as its implications on trade and development prospects for developing countries;

28. *Stresses* the importance of improving the efficiency of trade-supporting services, particularly in the areas of transport, customs, banking and insurance, and business information, of developing countries, particularly in the case of small and medium-sized enterprises, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in

---

[11] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1997*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.18 and corrigenda), resolution 1, annex II.

[12] Ibid., annex I.

collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations particularly the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries in this area;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide substantive inputs on the role of information and communications technology in trade, finance, investment and related areas to the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on (a) the implementation of the present resolution and (b) developments in the multilateral trading system.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.37

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Guyana:* draft resolution

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995 and 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[1] as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,[2]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from the world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[2] General Assembly resolution 51/240, annex.

99-35152 (E) 171199

at both regional and subregional levels, including activities of the regional commissions, in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries,

Recalling the holding of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, in New York from 24 to 26 August 1999,

Expressing its appreciation to donor partners for participating in the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of landlocked developing countries,

1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;[3]

2. *Endorses* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;[4]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked developing countries to and from the sea and freedom of the transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit developing countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked developing countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to further strengthen their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and as appropriate subregional cooperation, *inter alia*, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding where appropriate bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[1] and the agreed recommendations and conclusions of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with donor countries

[3] A/54/529.

[4] Ibid., sect. II.

and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize specific consultative groups, as appropriate, when requested by the landlocked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority areas for action at the national and subregional levels and draw up action programmes;

8. *Calls upon* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with predictable and additional financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, and to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to increase its assistance to landlocked and transit developing countries in these areas;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000-2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit transport systems, including sectoral aspects and transit transportation costs, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating necessary action-oriented measures, and to consider convening in 2003 a ministerial meeting on transit transport cooperation as a further effort to address the problems of landlocked and transit developing countries;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other development and financial institutions and donor countries, to seek voluntary contributions to ensure the participation of representatives of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meetings referred to in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the special problems of landlocked developing countries, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to constantly review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, including by means of a case study as necessary, promote regional and subregional cooperation, build up consensus on cooperative arrangements, mobilize international support measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries of the Conference with identifiable regular budget resources for landlocked developing countries so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.38

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (b)
Macroeconomic policy questions: financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Guyana* and Mexico: draft resolution

Towards a stable and equitable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/172 of 15 December 1998 on the financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries,

Noting the high-level regional meeting on the theme "Towards a stable and predictable international financial system and its relationship to social development",[1] held in Mexico on 5 and 6 September 1999, with the collaboration of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to contribute to the process launched by the Assembly in its resolution 53/172,

Recognizing that the increasing globalization of financial markets and capital flows has presented Governments, the multilateral financial institutions and the international community at large with new challenges and opportunities for the mobilization of adequate and predictable resources for promoting economic development and social welfare,

Stressing the importance of the provision of adequate financial resources for the development of developing countries, including through public and private financial flows, international trade, official development assistance and debt relief, and that the comprehensive and integrated consideration of these issues should constitute a very important element of the dialogue and collaboration between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See A/54/__.

99-35158 (E) 171199

Deeply concerned at the continuing decline in official development assistance, which is a significant external source of financing for development and an important support to the efforts of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, for eradicating poverty and tackling basic social needs, especially where private capital flows may either be inadequate or unavailable,

Emphasizing the importance of finding a lasting solution to the external debt problem of developing countries in order to release resources for financing their development efforts,

Expressing the need for future multilateral trade negotiations to result in increased access to markets for goods and services that are of export interest to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, such markets being an important source of financial resources for their development efforts,

Mindful of the need that the benefits of the increasing integration of global markets should be extended to all nations and peoples, in particular to the developing countries, especially the least developed among them, that in spite of the important role of private capital flows for promoting economic development they are not evenly distributed, and that for the majority of developing countries they are unavailable or inadequate,

Noting the important need to ensure that capital mobility benefits developing economies rather than harming them, and in particular noting that short-term speculative capital flows, due to their highly volatile nature, often have negative impacts on the long-term goals of developing countries,

Regretting that the recent financial crisis has led to a significant slowdown in the economic activity of developing countries and negative effects in terms of social development, with the gravest impacts on the most vulnerable, and in this context concerned that a sense of complacency may emerge as some of the most visible effects of the crisis seem to be overcome in some regions and sectors, which may result in the weakening of urgent action on a wide range of reforms that need to be undertaken in the international financial system,

Recognizing that the recent financial crisis has exposed the weaknesses of the present international financial system, and underlining the urgent need to work on a wide range of reforms for a stable and equitable international financial system in order to enable it to respond more effectively and in a timely manner to the challenges of development in the context of global financial integration,

Emphasizing that the United Nations, in fulfilling its role in the promotion of development, in particular of developing countries, should play a central role in the international efforts to build up the necessary international consensus on the wide range of reforms needed for a strengthened, stable and equitable international financial system responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[2] the note by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development entitled "The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries",[3] the report of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs entitled "Towards a new

[2] A/54/471.

[3] A/54/512/Add.1.

international financial architecture", the *World Economic and Social Survey, 1999*[4] and the *Trade and Development Report, 1999*;[5]

2. *Emphasizes* the need to renew national, regional and international efforts in order to promote a strengthened, stable and equitable international financial system, and to this end to improve its early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crisis in a timely manner, taking a comprehensive and long-term perspective, while remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups;

3. *Stresses* the importance of having an enabling international environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote global economic recovery, and to this end calls on major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, to adopt and pursue coordinated policies conducive to world economic growth and international financial stability and the promotion of a favourable external economic environment for a sustained global economic recovery, including the full recovery of crisis-affected countries;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of international financial stability, and in this context calls on developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, to ensure that their macroeconomic policies are consistent with the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries;

5. *Also stresses* the importance at the national level of strong domestic institutions to promote the achievement of growth and development, including through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory and supervisory systems of the financial and banking sectors, including adequate institutional arrangements both in the countries of origin and destination of international capital flows;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of accelerating the growth and development prospects of least developed countries, which remain the poorest and most vulnerable of the international community, and calls upon developed partners to carry on their efforts to increase official development assistance and their efforts aimed at strengthened debt relief, improved market access and enhanced balance-of-payment support;

7. *Reaffirms* the need for a continued and constructive dialogue, in the relevant institutions and forums among developed and developing countries including at the regional and subregional levels, on the need for the international community to continue to work together in formulating a global agenda for financial stability and on issues related to strengthening and reforming the international financial system, and in this context underscores the importance of an adequate and equitable representation and participation of developing countries in the decision-making processes of international financial institutions in order to ensure the effectiveness and universality of the new arrangements, reflecting the diversity among economies, their levels of development and their goals;

8. *Encourages* the deepening of the dialogue between the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions in order to promote the wide range of reforms needed for a strengthened, stable and equitable international financial architecture that reflects the global interests of the international community, and in this regard recommends that their next high-level meeting give priority to the consideration of the modalities to achieve a more strengthened, stable and equitable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries;

---

[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.II.C.1.

[5] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.II.D.1.

9. *Emphasizes* that the international financial institutions, in providing policy advice and supporting adjustment programmes, should ensure that they are sensitive to the specific circumstances of the concerned countries and to the special needs of developing countries and work towards the best possible outcomes in terms of growth and development, including through the protection of levels of social expenditure determined by each country on the basis of its needs and national priorities according to domestic economic and social development strategies;

10. *Stresses* the need to define the role and improve the capacities of the international, regional and subregional financial institutions with regard to the prevention, management and resolution in a timely and effective manner of international financial crisis, and in this regard encourages efforts to enhance the stabilizing role of regional and subregional financial institutions and arrangements in supporting the management of monetary and financial issues, and requests the regional commissions to provide their views on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to develop an early warning system to prevent or, as the case may be, to take timely action to address the threat of financial crises, and in this regard encourages the International Monetary Fund and other relevant international and regional institutions to deepen their efforts to contribute to this process;

12. *Underscores* the need to provide adequate international liquidity to the international financial system to contribute to the enhancement of worldwide stability, including through the provision to the international financial institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, of adequate resources to provide emergency financing in a timely manner to countries affected by financial crisis, as well as the further accessibility, transparency and timeliness of contingency credit lines, and the creation and strengthening of regional reserves;

13. *Emphasizes* that all countries should retain their autonomy in the management of capital accounts in accordance with their own national priorities and needs, and in this context underlines that the opening of the capital account must be carried out in an orderly, gradual and well sequenced manner, keeping its pace in line with the strengthening of the ability of countries to cope with its consequences;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen international and national financial systems through a more effective national, regional and international surveillance of both the public and private sectors, based, *inter alia*, upon the improvement of the availability and transparency of information, as appropriate, and possible additional regulatory and voluntary disclosure measures concerning financial market participants, including international institutional investors, particularly concerning highly leveraged operations;

15. *Calls* on the renewal of national, regional and international efforts to promote the greater involvement of the private sector in the prevention and resolution of financial crisis, and in this context underscores the importance of a more equitable distribution of the cost of adjustments between the public and private sectors, and between debtors, creditors and investors, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide their views on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

16. *Reiterates* its call to the international community to pursue national, regional and international efforts to contribute to minimizing the excessive volatility of global financial flows, and in this context reiterates the need to consider the establishment of regulatory frameworks for short-term capital flows and trade in currencies, *inter alia*,

through tax measures and market-related measures related to capital inflows, and invites the International Monetary Fund and relevant regulatory bodies to contribute to this process;

17. *Underlines* the importance that sovereign risk assessments be based on objective and transparent parameters, and in this regard invites the relevant national, regional and international regulatory bodies to contribute to the development of appropriate standards to ensure that risk-assessment agencies provide complete and accurate information on a timely and regular basis;

18. *Encourages* the efforts of the World Bank and regional development banks to help Governments to address the social consequences of crisis, in particular through the strengthening of social safety nets in developing countries, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, without losing sight of the long-term goals of development;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support, through the collaboration of the regional commissions, regional and subregional initiatives, including regional and subregional meetings, the design of a global agenda towards a more stable, predictable and equitable international financial system responsive to the challenges of development, in particular of developing countries, and in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to make available the results of those exercises to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, and in consultation with the Bretton Woods institutions, to report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item, "Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developed and developing countries", with an analysis of the current trend in global financial flows, providing recommendations for the design of a global agenda towards a strengthened, stable and equitable international financial system responsive to the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries;

21. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly to send a copy of the present resolution to the Boards of Directors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, inviting them to consider the present resolution in their discussions of this matter.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.39

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 99 (f)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Guyana:* draft resolution

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2001, as well as its resolution 53/182 of 15 December 1998,

Noting the progress made in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Taking note of the Ministerial declaration on the South Summit adopted at the twenty-third annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77,[1] held in New York on 24 September 1999, and the Declaration adopted by the Ninth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Least Developed Countries,[2] held in New York on 29 September 1999,

1. *Decides* that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will be held in Brussels;

2. *Also decides* that the meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 will be organized in New York in two parts, in the third quarter of 2000 and the first quarter of 2001, each for five working days;

3. *Further decides* that the Secretary-General of the Conference will organize the three expert-level preparatory meetings provided in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 at venues and for durations deemed most appropriate in consultation with Member States;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/54/432, annex I.

[2] A/C.2/54/3, annex.

99-35164 (E) 171199

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to organize regional-level preparatory events in collaboration with the regional commissions and other relevant regional and subregional organizations;

5. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with Member States and in cooperation with relevant organizations and agencies, to organize well-focused sectoral, thematic and country-specific round-table meetings, as appropriate, during the Conference to contribute to the work of the Conference;

6. *Again emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparation;

7. *Notes with appreciation* in this regard the initiative of the European Union to collaborate in the country-level preparations through the assistance of its representatives in the least developed countries and calls upon the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and all other relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system to provide support to country-level preparations through their field offices in the least developed countries;

8. *Urges* the organizations involved in the implementation of the integrated initiatives for the least developed countries' trade development to intensify their support for the efforts to substantially enhance export supply capacity of the least developed countries, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit progress reports thereon at the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings and the Conference itself;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank to link the forthcoming round-table and consultative group meetings to the country-level preparatory process of the Conference, and to ensure that these meetings make substantive contributions to the Conference;

10. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as Convener of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure the full involvement of United Nations resident coordinators and country teams in the least developed countries in the preparations for the Conference, particularly at the country level;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to convene inter-agency meetings, as necessary, to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant institutions, for the purpose of carrying out preparations for and follow-up to the Conference;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the preparatory process and the Conference and in its follow-up;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives so as to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

14. *Decides* to defray the cost of participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings and the Conference itself through the use of unspent balances arising from the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make arrangements for substantially strengthening the capacity of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries of the Secretariat through providing sufficient staff and necessary resources, with a view to enabling it to organize the Conference effectively and efficiently and to follow up its outcome, while carrying out adequately its mandates relating to the least developed, the landlocked and the small island developing countries;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the state of preparations for the Conference taking into account the consideration of the matter by the Trade and Development Board at its forty-seventh session;

17. *Decides* that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s[3] will continue to provide the framework for national and international action for the least developed countries until the adoption by the Conference of the next programme of action, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s on a system-wide basis and in the context of the follow-up of all major United Nations conferences and summits as well as in all forthcoming events, including the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the event of a high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development and its preparatory process, and the Millennium Assembly;

18. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

---

[3] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.40

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
17 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Guyana:* draft resolution

Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[1] which states, *inter alia*, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995 and 52/181 of 18 December 1997,

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures particularly adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[2] A/54/486.

99-35194 (E) 171199

that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.41

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.31

Report of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly

(a) Takes note of Economic and Social Council decision 1999/277 of 28 July 1999 on the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development[1] that is to be transmitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(b) Requests the Commission on Sustainable Development to consider, at its eighth session, those parts of the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development that are relevant to its agreed programme of work for 2000, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/47, 1999/48 and 1999/49, of 28 July 1999, and General Assembly resolution 50/126 of 20 December 1995, and to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report for its consideration.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 12* (E/1999/32).

99-35728 (E) 221199